

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A driving method for a flat-panel display device which includes, on a substrate, a plurality of signal lines, a plurality of gate lines substantially perpendicular to said signal lines, a plurality of switching elements provided near intersections of said signal lines and said gate lines, a plurality of pixel electrodes connected via said switching elements, and a counter electrode opposed to said pixel electrodes, and a plurality of analog switches connected between a display signal bus and said signal lines for supplying a display signal to the signal lines, and in which ~~[[a]]~~ the display signal is sequentially supplied to said signal lines and a potential of said counter electrode is inverted with respect to a reference potential for every predetermined number of horizontal and vertical scanning periods or for every predetermined number of vertical scanning periods so as to perform a display operation, said driving method comprising:

inverting the potential of said counter electrode during a horizontal or vertical blanking period subsequent to a horizontal or vertical display period; and

fixing all the signal lines to a predetermined potential by simultaneously turning on said analog switches to supply ~~supplying~~ a same signal from the display signal bus to all the signal lines through said analog switches during the horizontal or vertical blanking period.

Claim 2 (Original): A driving method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined potential corresponds to an intermediate potential between maximum and minimum levels of the display signal.

Claim 3 (Original): A driving method according to claim 1, wherein the display signal is sequentially supplied to said signal lines during the horizontal display period.

Claim 4 (Original): A driving method according to claim 1, wherein said signal lines are divided into two or more groups, each group including a predetermined number of adjacent ones of said signal lines, and the display signal is sequentially supplied to each of the groups of said signal lines by time division during the horizontal display period.

Claim 5 (Original): A driving method according to claim 1, wherein said signal lines are divided into two or more groups, each group including a predetermined number of adjacent ones of said signal lines, and the display signal is simultaneously supplied to the groups of said signal lines during the horizontal display period, such that the display signal is sequentially supplied to said signal lines of each group by time division during the horizontal display period.

Claim 6 (Original): A driving method according to claim 1, wherein the display signal is supplied in a digital form, and converted into an analog form on the substrate.